

Emerald Ash Borer Makes Its Wisconsin Debut

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EAB Identified in Wisconsin—On Friday, August 1, specimens taken from a wooded residential lot near the village of Newburg in Ozaukee County were positively identified as emerald ash borer. That same day, three adult beetles were collected from a purple EAB sticky trap in Fireman's Park in Newburg. These specimens were later confirmed to be EAB as well. Though near the first site, Fireman's Park is in Washington County, meaning that EAB has now been detected in two Wisconsin counties.

Four-County Quarantine Established—Less than a week later, on August 7, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) declared a quarantine for all of Ozaukee, Washington, Fond du Lac and Sheboygan Counties. The size of the infestation is currently unknown, so Fond du Lac and Sheboygan Counties were also included because of their proximity to the known infested area. A map of the EAB detections and quarantined counties is available from www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov/pdf/WIEABQuarantine.pdf.

The quarantine restricts movement of hardwood firewood, ash nursery stock, ash logs and any other ash products that could transport EAB out of the quarantined counties. This quarantine affects logging operations, since it places restrictions on moving logs out of the four-county quarantined area in an effort to prevent the spread of EAB. DNR will be revising its management guidelines for landowners now that EAB has been found. For additional information about quarantine restrictions see <http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/pdf/EasyGuideEABRegulations.pdf>.

How quickly will things begin to happen? EAB adults have completed their emergence from infested material and will not emerge again until spring of 2009, meaning that we now have time to gather information needed to make the best management decisions. There is no risk of natural spread until next spring, so biologically, there is no need to rush to remove and destroy infested materials. Movement of infested material (firewood, logs with bark, etc.) becomes the focus for limiting the spread, and quarantine is a regulatory tool used by DATCP for this purpose. Likewise, educational efforts will be greatly emphasized to prevent further spread and inform impacted homeowners and businesses of the tools available for EAB management.

Press Release Information Available—Representatives of DNR and DATCP met with local government officials on Monday, August 11, to discuss the current EAB situation and state agency plans for the next few months. An information session for the general public was held on Tuesday, August 19, in West Bend. More

information on the EAB discoveries and subsequent quarantine can be found in the press releases available on the DATCP website:

http://datcp.state.wi.us/press_release/result.jsp?prid=2199

http://datcp.state.wi.us/press_release/result.jsp?prid=2200

Wisconsin's EAB Response Plan—The state's EAB response plan was updated and is available at www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/environment/insects/emerald-ash-borer/pdf/2008WIEABResponsePlan.pdf.

How big is the infestation?—Surveys to determine the extent and age of the infestation will be conducted throughout the fall and winter. An aerial survey of the area has already been completed, and areas with dead and dying trees will be ground-checked. Additional visual surveys will also be conducted to determine the extent of the infestation.

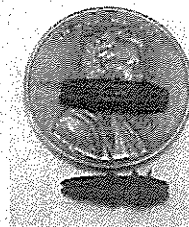
EAB Surveys Continue in Wisconsin—DATCP survey crews continue to examine the Newburg area, where EAB was first detected in Wisconsin, for signs of additional infestations. During the initial visual survey of ash trees within 10 miles of Newburg, 148 locations (individual trees or clusters) were identified for further examination. The follow-up inspection of these points is two-thirds complete and is expected to conclude within two weeks. Many of those trees have been ruled out as infested, while others may require peeling. Some trees may house purple sticky traps next year. To date no additional EAB infestations have been found in Wisconsin.

An interesting fact: EAB has been found in over fifty Illinois communities since that state's first EAB find just two years ago in 2006!

DATCP's destructive tree survey is also underway. The following counties have been completed: Adams, Baron, Dane, Dunn, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, Kewaunee, La Crosse, Milwaukee, Monroe, Ozaukee, Portage, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago. Work is currently underway in Columbia, Iowa, Manitowoc and Waukesha counties. No additional EAB infestations have been found to date. This will be the last year that DATCP will be doing destructive surveys and they will instead be using the purple traps as their primary detection tool.

The DNR's detection-tree project in 25 state parks and forests is complete for this year, and no EAB larvae were found during peeling of six detection trees per property. Over 150 detection trees remain for peeling in future years. In addition, no EAB adults were caught on purple sticky traps hung at 24 of the state properties.

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EAB adult beetle

Photo: Linda Williams, WDNR

D-shaped exit hole from Wisconsin site.

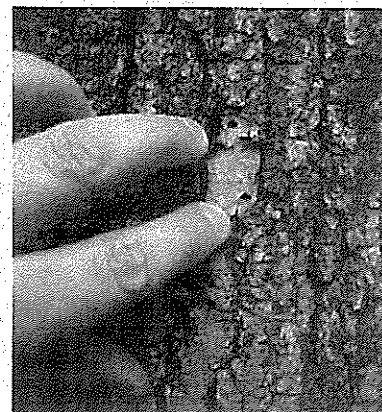


Photo: Linda Williams, WDNR

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EAB Found Again in Wisconsin—Mid-October brought another EAB detection, this time in two recently planted ash trees in rural Kenosha County. In August, the trees were brought from Illinois in violation of the emerald ash borer quarantines. This was at the tail end of the EAB adult flight period, so the risk of adult emergence from these trees following planting is currently believed to be low. There is very little ash in the vicinity of the planting site and surveys in the area did not find any signs of additional infested ash trees. The two trees have now been destroyed. For the press release announcing the Kenosha County find, see <http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/pdf/KenoshaEAB.pdf>.

EAB Found Again in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan—In October EAB was found in Delta County at Garden Corners (east of Escanaba). Since then, there have been several additional finds within a few miles. One is at Cooks, only four miles away but in Schoolcraft County. This brings to five the number of UP counties where EAB infestations have been found. Portions of Schoolcraft and Delta Counties have been quarantined. A map of the quarantined areas of the UP can be found at www.michigan.gov/eab. The Michigan Department of Agriculture has decided to focus its EAB efforts in the Upper Peninsula. Their quarantines have been changed so that ash wood and firewood can now be moved anywhere within Lower Michigan (although long-distance movement is still discouraged). This wood still cannot cross the Mackinac Bridge into the UP. More information on the EAB situation in Michigan can be found at www.michigan.gov/eab.

Firewood Movement and Quarantines in Wisconsin—Although it may be legal, we don't recommend long-distance firewood movement. Moving firewood long distances increases the risk of spreading pests and diseases such as emerald ash borer, gypsy moth and oak wilt. *Hardwood firewood can't be moved out of the four counties quarantined for emerald ash borer (Ozaukee, Washington, Fond du Lac and Sheboygan Counties). It may be moved from another Wisconsin county through these four quarantined counties as long as the only stops are for fuel (a new clarification).* A nice FAQ sheet about firewood and the quarantine is available at http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fh/PDF/EAB_FAQ_Firewood.pdf. An up-to-date firewood quarantine poster is available at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fh/pdf/FirewoodQuarantineWI.pdf>.

These restrictions are in addition to the existing DNR firewood rules, which states that firewood entering a state park or forest must have be from Wisconsin and originate from within 50 miles of that property.



S-shaped galleries from Wisconsin site.

Photo: Linda Williams, WDNR

Insecticide Treatments for Individual Trees—Now that EAB has been found in Wisconsin, homeowners may wonder if they should start treating their yard trees even if they live far away from the known infestation. This news release from Chris Williamson, a UW–Madison entomology professor, should answer most questions about treatment of yard trees: www.news.wisc.edu/15472. His current recommendation is that it's not worth treating trees to protect them from EAB if you live more than 10–12 miles from a known EAB infestation.

New EAB Pesticide Option for Wisconsin—DATCP has issued a special local need registration ("Section 24c") for an unregistered product called TREE-äge. This special registration allows for injection of the product into the trunks of ash trees (*Fraxinus* species) for control of EAB in Wisconsin. DATCP previously issued a different Section 24c for use of Safari as a trunk spray for EAB earlier this year. The special registration for TREE-äge can be found at www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/pest-fert/pesticides/pdf/TREE-age.pdf.

Reporting EAB—Suspected EAB infestations can be reported to the EAB hotline, **1-800-462-2803**. DATCP and/or DNR staff will visit symptomatic sites.

EAB in the US—A current map showing all known EAB infestations is available at www.emeraldashborer.info/files/MultiState_EABpos.pdf. *

What Damaged This Tree?

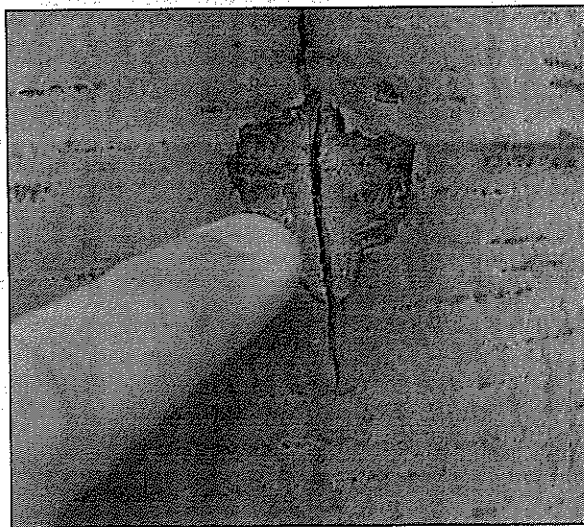


Photo: Linda Williams, WDNR

Do you have pictures of tree damage others ought to know about? Send them to Kim Sebastian (address on page 16) and we'll print them here!

Turn to page 15 to find out...

<http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/UF/>